

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Commission**

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**ITEM**

**15**

**INFORMATION**

**TOPIC**

**Process for Approving Stream Use Designation Changes**

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In April the department plans to bring the final rule package containing the recommendations for about 300 stream use designation changes. These recommendations are based on use attainability analyses conducted by the department starting in March 2006. Because of the large number of recommendations, the complexity of the issues and the degree of public interest in the final rule, the department would like to discuss a number of issues concerning the process of presenting, reviewing and decision-making on this rule package.

The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) contained a summary list of the stream segments being considered and our recommendation for use designation changes. We expect to change a number of the stream use designation recommendations from what was presented in the NOIA. Any recommendation in the final rule that is different from the NOIA will be highlighted or flagged. Are there other categories of streams or recommendations that the commission would like us to highlight? How can we present this list so that the commission members can easily identify streams that interest them?

The final rule will contain the department's final recommendation for stream use designations. The commission must decide whether to accept the department's recommendation on each stream segment. The final rule must be acted upon before the May EPC meeting or the NOIA will expire. So there will be little opportunity for the department or the commission to gather more information or to consult with others.

It is possible that there could be a lot of people to come to the EPC meeting for the public participation period. How does the commission want to handle the potential for a large crowd?

The department will present a summary of the public comments received.

Charles C. Corell, Chief  
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Environmental Services Division

January 16, 2008